

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:

1. (Currently amended) A balance shoe for use in a window jamb, comprising:
a slide block comprising a lower end, a front surface, a rear surface, and oppositely disposed sliding surfaces connecting the front surface with the rear surface, the sliding surfaces adapted for guiding the slide block when installed in the jamb;
a pivoting locking member at least partially disposed about the lower end, the front surface, and the rear surface of the slide block, the locking member coupled to an external surface of the slide block and biased into a locking position when installed in the jamb, the pivoting locking member extending beyond only one of the sliding surfaces and the lower end of the slide block at least when the pivoting locking member is in the locking position, wherein the pivot locking member comprises teeth for engaging the window jamb and is biased into the locking position by a spring; and
a camming surface disposed on the pivoting locking member that, upon application of a force, retracts the pivoting locking member from the locking position.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Previously Presented) The balance shoe of claim 1, wherein the teeth are adapted to penetrate the window jamb.
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Original) The balance shoe of claim 1, wherein the camming surface is engagable with a pivot bar disposed on a window sash.

7. (Original) The balance shoe of claim 1, wherein the balance shoe is adapted to attach to at least one of a window balance and a window balance cord.
8. (Original) The balance shoe of claim 1, wherein the balance shoe is made from a material selected from the group consisting of metal, polymer, wood, and combinations thereof.
9. (Currently amended) A window balance system for use in a window jamb, comprising:
a window balance; and
a balance shoe coupled to the window balance, the balance shoe comprising:
a slide block comprising a lower end, a front surface, a rear surface, and oppositely disposed sliding surfaces connecting the front surface with the rear surface, the sliding surfaces adapted for guiding the slide block when installed in the jamb;
a pivoting locking member at least partially disposed about the lower end, the front surface, and the rear surface of the slide block, the locking member coupled to an external surface of the slide block and biased into a locking position when installed in the jamb, the pivoting locking member extending beyond only one of the sliding surfaces and the lower end of the slide block at least when the pivoting locking member is in the locking position, wherein the pivot locking member comprises teeth for engaging the window jamb and is biased into the locking position by a spring; and
a camming surface disposed on the pivoting locking member that, upon application of a force, retracts the pivoting locking member from the locking position.
10. (Cancelled)
11. (Previously Presented) The window balance system of claim 9, wherein the teeth are adapted to penetrate the window jamb.
12. (Cancelled)
13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously presented) The window balance system of claim 9, wherein the camming surface is engagable with a pivot bar disposed on a window sash.

15. (Currently amended) A tilt-in window sash assembly, comprising:

a frame comprising a window jamb;

at least one tilt-in window sash, the tilt-in window sash operatively slideable in the window jamb and tiltable with respect thereto; and

at least one window balance coupled to a balance shoe and the window jamb, the balance shoe positionable in the window jamb and comprising:

a slide block comprising a lower end, a front surface, a rear surface, and oppositely disposed sliding surfaces connecting the front surface with the rear surface, the sliding surfaces adapted for guiding the slide block in the jamb;

a pivoting locking member at least partially disposed about the lower end, the front surface and the rear surface of the slide block, the locking member coupled to an external surface of the slide block and biased into a locking position when installed in the jamb, the pivoting locking member extending beyond only one of the sliding surfaces and the lower end of the slide block at least when the pivoting locking member is in the locking position, wherein the pivot locking member comprises teeth for engaging the window jamb and is biased into the locking position by a spring; and

a camming surface disposed on the pivoting locking member that, upon application of a force, retracts the pivoting locking member from the locking position.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously Presented) The window sash assembly of claim 15, wherein the teeth are adapted to penetrate the window jamb.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Previously presented) The window sash assembly of claim 15, wherein the camming surface is engagable with a pivot bar disposed on the window sash.

20-26. (Cancelled)

27. (New) The balance shoe of claim 1, wherein the slide block further comprises a ledge extending from at least one of the front surface and the rear surface thereof, the ledge configured to contact and to limit rotation of the pivoting locking member when in a locked position.

28. (New) The window balance system of claim 9, wherein the slide block further comprises a ledge extending from at least one of the front surface and the rear surface thereof, the ledge configured to contact and to limit rotation of the pivoting locking member when in a locked position.

29. (New) The tilt-in window sash assembly of claim 15, wherein the slide block further comprises a ledge extending from at least one of the front surface and the rear surface thereof, the ledge configured to contact and to limit rotation of the pivoting locking member when in a locked position.